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(11) **EP 0 763 944 A3**

(12) **EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION**

(88) Date of publication A3:
17.03.1999 Bulletin 1999/11

(51) Int. Cl.⁶: **H04N 7/50, H04N 7/64**

(43) Date of publication A2:
19.03.1997 Bulletin 1997/12

(21) Application number: 96113836.9

(22) Date of filing: 29.08.1996

(84) Designated Contracting States:
DE FR GB

(30) Priority: 18.09.1995 JP 238650/95
19.04.1996 JP 98629/96

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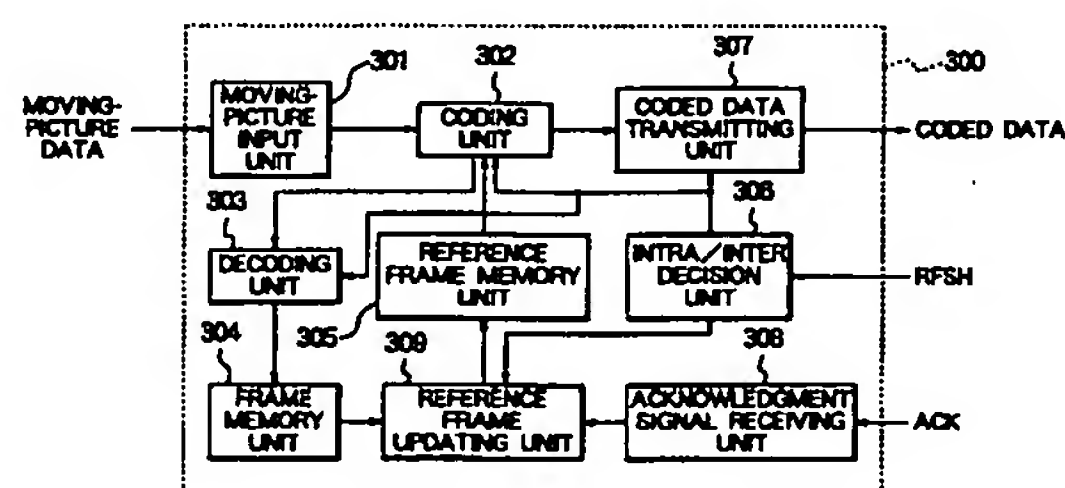
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(54) **Video coder, decoder and transmission system**

(57) A transmission system transmits a series of coded frames from a transmitting device to a receiving device, using both intra-frame coding and inter-frame coding. The receiving device decodes the frames and sends acknowledgment signals to the transmitting device. The transmitting device selects the reference frame employed in inter-frame coding according to these acknowledgment signals. The method of reference frame selection can be varied according to an assessment of transmission channel quality. The assessment criteria, or the reference frame selection method itself, can be varied in response to input from a human user.

FIG. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 11 3836

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A	* column 12, line 40 - column 15, line 47; claims; figures *	5-7, 9-13, 20-23, 30-32, 37-39, 41-45, 54-59	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 2 December 1998	Examiner Foglia, P
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 11 3836

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<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

EPO FORM 1503 03 82 (P04C01)



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Application Number
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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
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A	<p>ONUNGA J O ET AL: "A SIMPLE PACKET RETRANSMISSION STRATEGY FOR THROUGHPUT AND DELAY ENHANCEMENT ON POWER LINE COMMUNICATION CHANNELS"</p> <p>IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON POWER DELIVERY, vol. 8, no. 3, 1 July 1993, pages 818-826, XP000403075</p> <p>* abstract *</p> <p>* paragraph II.A *</p>	1, 14-21, 46-53	
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
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THE HAGUE		2 December 1998	Foglia, P
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone</p> <p>Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category</p> <p>A : technological background</p> <p>O : non-written disclosure</p> <p>P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention</p> <p>E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date</p> <p>D : document cited in the application</p> <p>L : document cited for other reasons</p> <p>& : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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CLAIMS INCURRING FEES

The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.

- ☐ Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
- ☐ No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.

LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

see sheet B

- ☒ All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
- ☐ Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
- ☐ None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:



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**LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
SHEET B**

Application Number
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The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-13 24-30 33-45

Video coding and decoding system with inter-intra frame
selection based on acknowledgment signals from decoder

2. Claims: 14-23 31 32 46-59

Video coding and decoding system with inter-intra frame
selection modes depending on transmission channel quality

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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